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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3504

May 30, 1996

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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

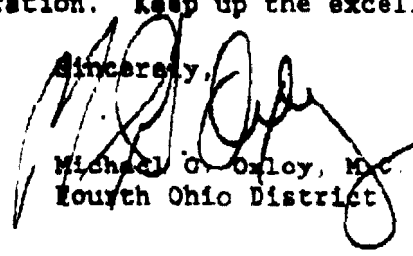
I am writing concerning eligibility rules for the upcoming D-, E-, and F-block spectrum auctions. Specifically, I wish to reinforce congressional intent regarding the entrepreneurial nature of F-block bidding.

My hope is that small businesses and rural entities will be afforded realistic opportunities to obtain licenses. The timely build-out of PCS systems is vital to the economic development of rural areas. There is a fear that the more urban-focused business plans of many licensees could cause time lags in bringing service to non-metropolitan areas.

As you know, Section 309(j)(3) of the Act calls for the rapid deployment of new services and the dissemination of licenses to a wide variety of applicants, explicitly including small businesses and rural telephone companies. I trust that the Commission will be mindful of the spirit of this mandate during its rulemaking, consistent with the statute and all applicable rules and regulations.

Thank you for your consideration. Keep up the excellent work.

Sincerely,


Michael G. Oxley, M.C.
Fourth Ohio District

cc: Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness

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230 DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Comm.
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

It is my understanding that the FCC is in the process of establishing eligibility rules for the Personal Communications Service (PCS) 10Mhz spectrum auction. I am concerned that the express intent of Congress, that small businesses be afforded realistic opportunities to obtain PCS licenses, has not, and will not be realized in the PCS spectrum auction.

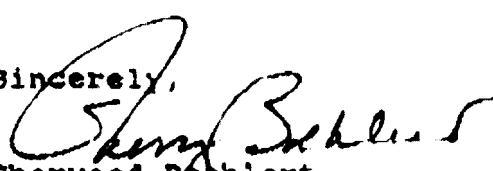
The reservation for "entrepreneurs" of the C (30Mhz) and F (10Mhz) block auctions was the FCC's attempt to meet the Congressional small business mandate. Analyses of the recently completed C-block auction show that small businesses did not fare well, unless they were the "control group" in new business ventures with large companies having virtually unlimited sources of bid financing.

I urge you to modify the eligibility rules for the F-block auction to ensure that small businesses be allowed to apply for and hold these licenses. Rural areas like the district I represent rely on small businesses to provide service, and will not be helped if all the spectrum is granted to small businesses that are aligned with large conglomerates.

I appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,


Sherwood Boehlert
Member of Congress

SB:KW

CC: Commissioners
Andrew Barrett
James Quallo
Rachelle Chong
Susan Ness